8:Mitchell E-5 (1946-1947) 1949
FT7 Yao FT7
[P. 141 C]

through one or other incumbent of the position of village headman.[4] Succession to posts of authority, including that of the chief, is matrilineal. Ideally the succession should pass to the first-born son of a man's eldest sister, but this is not always followed, for the personal qualities of the successor are most important.

The total African population of the area studied is 65,000. There are one or two Indian traders and two Europeans permanently resident in the area. One European is a missionary in the north-east corner and the other an Agricultural officer in the north centre of the area. Part of the area is administered by the District Commissioner, Zomba, and part by District Commissioner, Fort Johnston, and these officers tour the districts under their jurisdiction. Occasionally other White officials and labour recruiters appear, but in the main, Whites are not often seen in this area. The one road traversing it is usually impassable for a part of the rainy season.